



From:

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Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2010 9:25 AM

To:

Mayes-WebEmail

Cc: Subject: Newman-Web; Kennedy-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web

Comment on AAWC Post Hearing Brief: Docket: W-01303A-09-0343

ZW-01303 A-09-0343

**Dear Chairwoman Mayes and Commissioners:** 

I read the POST-HEARING BRIEF OF ARIZONA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, dated July 16. In the introduction, page 2, lines 16-20, the company states:

"The Company is sympathetic to the difficulty that this rate increase poses for many of its rate payers. To help alleviate the degree of rate increase...."

I am a ratepayer. First, I find it hypocritical for the Company to use the term "sympathetic" and at the same time request a near doubling of Anthem water/wastewater rates. Sympathetic is defined as: 1) favorably inclined, and/or 2) agreeably suited to one's disposition or mood.

Simply, I find it more than inequable to equate their "mood" to the increase requested. The Commission has lived through a long history with AAWC and so has the Anthem ratepayer. The Pulte refunds are a major component of the increase, but the company continues to flow through with egregious rate increases regardless of their "sympathy" for the ratepayer. I would venture to state that 8,700 Anthem ratepayers would cite that the 1997 Pulte Agreement was and is a "poor business decision". The ratepayer should not shoulder the burden of a poor business decision.

The record shows that the corporate parent is making millions and paying dividends. In the instant case, this AAWC has not offered one "rate shock" leveling schedule. They oppose phasing in rates. While they favor consolidation, it was not their intent to provide this "averaging" process from the get-go; Commissioner Mayes requested a study, not AAWC.

How can AAWC claim to be "sympathetic" and at the same time ask for unreasonable rate increases. Their stand alone rate schedule will not only hurt Anthem, but damage it for years to come. Imagine, "welcome to Anthem and enjoy the highest unreasonable rates in the state." Business, commerce, lifestyles, etc. will be seriously impacted for years to come.

You job is to determine what is "just and reasonable". Don't let AAWC achieve their goal and "kill off" their ratepayers in the process.

Bob Golembe Anthem, AZ

Arizona Corporation Commission

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